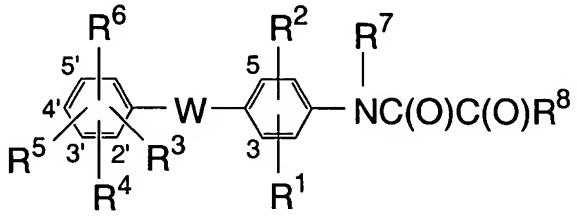
CLAIMS

1. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the local administration of a thyromimetic compound to the mammal.

2. A method of claim 1 wherein the thyromimetic compound is administered to the nail and/or immediately surround tissue.

3. A method of claim 1 wherein the thyromimetic compound is administered topically.

4. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



a prodrug thereof, a geometric or optical isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, said prodrug, or said isomer, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, -CN, $-OCF_3$ or $-OC_{1-6}$ alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substitutents independently selected from Group Z, C_{2-12} alkenyl, halogen, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9S(O)_2R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-OR^{11}$, $-OR^{11}$ or $-S(O)_aR^{12}$, provided that, where R^5 is not fluoro, R^4 is $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9S(O)_2R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-OR^{11}$, $-OR^{11}$ or $-S(O)_aR^{12}$;

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together to form a carbocyclic ring A of the formula $-(CH_2)_b-$ or a heterocyclic ring A selected from the group consisting of $-Q-(CH_2)_c-$ and $-(CH_2)_j-Q-(CH_2)_k-$ wherein Q is O, S or NR^{17}, wherein said carbocyclic ring A and said heterocyclic ring A are each independently optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halide or oxo;

R^5 is fluoro, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy or $OC(O)R^9$;

or R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring B selected from the group consisting of $-CR^9=CR^{10}-NH-$, $-N=CR^9-NH-$, $-CR^9=CH-O-$ and $-CR^9=CH-S-$;

R^6 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or trifluoromethyl;

R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^8 is $-OR^9$ or $-NR^{19}R^{20}$;

R^9 and R^{10} for each occurrence are independently (A) hydrogen, (B) C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (C) C_{2-12} alkenyl, (D) C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, -CN, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, oxo, $-OR^{18}$, $-COOR^{18}$ or aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, (E) aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, or (F) het optionally substituted with X and Y;

or R^9 and R^{10} for any occurrence may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring C optionally further containing a second heterogroup selected from the group consisting of -O-, $-NR^{13}-$ and -S-, and optionally further substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-5} alkyl, oxo, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-OR^{18}$, $-C(O)_2R^{18}$, -CN, $-C(O)\ R^9$, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, C_{5-6} spirocycloalkyl, and a carbocyclic ring B selected from the group consisting of 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated carbocyclic rings, and including any bicyclic group in which said carbocyclic ring B is fused to a carbocyclic ring C selected from the group consisting of 5-, 6-, 7-and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated carbocyclic rings;

R^{11} is C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, monofluoromethyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$ or $-C(O)R^9$;

R^{12} is C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, or het optionally substituted with X and Y;

R^{13} and R^{14} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-aryl optionally substituted with X

and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-hydroxy, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-poly-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-$CONR^{15}R^{16}$ or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

R^{15} and R^{16} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl or aryl optionally substituted with X and Y;

R^{17} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-COR^9$ or $-SO_2R^9$;

R^{18} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, -(C_{1-6} alkyl)-C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-hydroxy, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-poly-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-$CONR^{15}R^{16}$, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-(C_{1-4} alkoxy) or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

R^{19} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{20} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

W is O, $S(O)_d$, CH_2 or NR^9 ;

Group Z is C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, hydroxy, oxo, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_aR^{12}$, $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)R^9R^{10}$, and $-NR^9R^{10}$;

Group V is halogen, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-OCF_3$, $-OR^9$, oxo, trifluoromethyl, -CN, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, and het optionally substituted with X and Y;

het for each occurrence is a heterocyclic ring D selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and including any bicyclic group in which said heterocyclic ring D is fused to a benzene ring or a heterocyclic ring E selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

X and Y for each occurrence are independently (A) hydrogen, (B) halogen, (C) trifluoromethyl, (D) $-OCF_3$, (E) -CN, (F) C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$ and phenyl, (G) C_{1-6} alkoxy, (H) aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen,

$-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy, (I) $-C(O)_2R^{13}$, (J) $-C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}$, (K) $-C(O)R^{13}$, (L) $-NR^{13}C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}$ and (M) $-NR^{13}C(O)R^{14}$;

or X and Y for any occurrence in the same variable may be taken together to form (a) a carbocyclic ring D of the formula $-(CH_2)_e-$ or (b) a heterocyclic ring F selected from the group consisting of $-O(CH_2)_fO-$, $(CH_2)_gNH-$ and -CH=CHNH- ;

a and d are each independently 0, 1 or 2;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c, f, g, j and k are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

e is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7.

5. A method of claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(7-hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

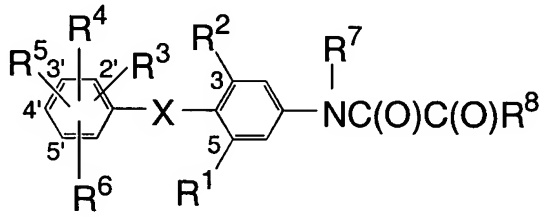
N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid; and

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid.

6. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



a prodrug thereof, a geometric or optical isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, said prodrug, or said isomer, wherein:

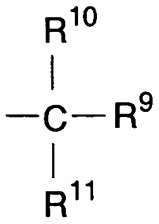
R^1 and R^2 are independently halogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, -CN or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl; provided that at least one of R^1 and R^2 is -CN;

R^3 is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

R^4 is halogen, C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{1-8} alkanoyl, hydroxy-(C_{1-8} alkyl), aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z, aryl-(C_{1-8} alkyl), carbocyclic aroyl

optionally substituted with Y and Z, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with Y and Z, or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl-(C_{1-8} alkyl);

or R^4 is the radical



wherein: R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z, aryl-(C_{1-8} alkyl), C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with Y and Z, or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl-(C_{1-8} alkyl); R^{10} is $-OR^{14}$; R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl; or R^{10} and R^{11} may be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a carbonyl group;

R^5 is hydroxy, esterified hydroxy or etherified hydroxy;

R^6 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl;

R^8 is $-OR^{12}$ or $-NR^{12}R^{13}$;

R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} acyl;

X is O, $S(O)_a$, C=O or NR^{15} ;

a is 0, 1 or 2;

R^{15} is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

Y and Z for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) trifluoromethyl, (d) $-OCF_3$, (e) -CN, (f) C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$ and phenyl, (g) C_{1-6} alkoxy, (h) aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy, (i) $-C(O)_2R^{16}$, (j) $-C(O)NR^{16}R^{17}$, (k) $-C(O)R^{16}$, (l) $-NR^{16}C(O)NR^{16}R^{17}$ or (m) $-NR^{16}C(O)R^{17}$; or Y and Z for any occurrence may be taken together to form (a) a carbocycle of the formula $-(CH_2)_b$, or (b) a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of $-O(CH_2)_cO-$, $-(CH_2)_dNH-$ and -CH=CHNH- ;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c and d are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

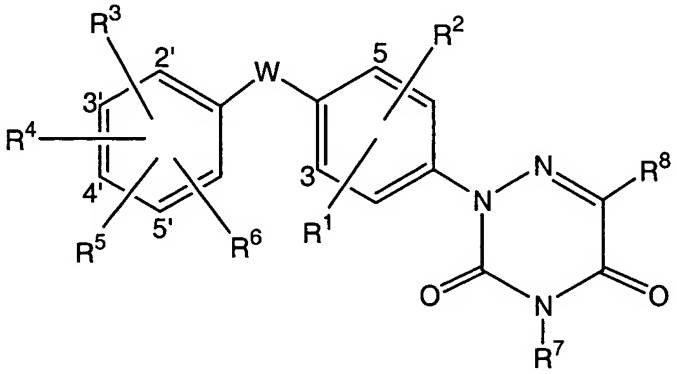
R^{16} and R^{17} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, -(C_{1-6} alkyl)-C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het

optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-hydroxy, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-poly-halo, -(C_{1-4} alkyl)-$CONR^{18}R^{19}$ or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

het for each occurrence is a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and including any bicyclic group in which said heterocyclic ring is fused to a benzene ring or a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S; and

R^{18} and R^{19} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl or aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z.

7. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein W is (a) -O-, (b) -$S(O)_m$-, (c) -NR^{30}-, (d) -C(O)-, (e) -HC=CH-, (f) -CH_2-, (g) -CHF-, (h) -CF_2- or (i) -CH(OH)-;

R^1 and R^2 are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (d) -CN, (e) -OR^{12} or (f) -trifluoromethyl;

R^3 is (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of

halogen, $-OCF_3$ and $-CF_3$, (d) -CN, (e) $-OR^{12}$, (f) -trifluoromethyl, (g) $-NO_2$, (h) $-SO_2-R^{13}$, (i) $-C(O)_2R^9$, (j) $-C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (k) $-C(O)R^{16}$, (l) $-NR^{21}C(O)-NR^{21}R^{22}$, (m) $-NR^{19}-C(O)R^{20}$ or (n) $-NR^{17}R^{18}$;

R^4 is (a) $-C(R^{14})(R^{15})(R^{16})$, (b) $-(C_0-C_3)$alkyl-$NR^{17}R^{18}$, (c) $-C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (d) $-NR^{19}-C(O)-R^{20}$, (e) $-(C_0-C_3)$alkyl-$NR^{21}-C(O)-NR^{21}R^{22}$, (f) $-S(O)_m-R^{22}$, (g) $-S(O)_2-NR^{21}R^{22}$, (h) $-NR^{21}-S(O)_2-R^{22}$, (i) -aryl, (j) -het, (k) $-OR^{33}$ or (l) halogen; provided that in substituents (f) and (h), R^{22} is other than $-OR^{34}$; and provided that when substituent (b) is $-(C_0)$alkyl-$NR^{17}R^{18}$, R^{18} is other than $-C(O)-R^{28}$ or $-S(O)_2-R^{29}$;

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together to form a carbocyclic ring of Formula $-(CH_2)_b-$ or a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-Q-(CH_2)_c-$ and $-(CH_2)_j-Q-(CH_2)_k-$ wherein Q is O, S or NR^{25}; wherein said carbocyclic ring is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V; and wherein said heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

R^5 is $-OR^{23}$;

or R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-CR^{31}=CR^{32}-NH-$, $-N=CR^{31}-NH-$, $-CR^{31}=CR^{32}-O-$ and $-CR^{31}=CR^{32}-S-$;

R^6 is (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) $-(C_1-C_6)$alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$ and $-CF_3$, (d) -CN, (e) $-OR^{12}$, (f) -trifluoromethyl, (g) $-NO_2$, (h) $-SO_2-R^{13}$, (i) $-C(O)_2R^9$, (j) $-C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (k) $-C(O)R^{16}$, (l) $-NR^{21}C(O)NR^{21}R^{22}$, (m) $-NR^{19}-C(O)R^{20}$ or (n) $-NR^{17}R^{18}$;

R^7 is (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 halo atoms or (c) $-(CH_2)_nCOOR^9$;

R^8 is (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1-C_6)$alkyl, (c) $-C(O)-OR^9$, (d) $-C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or (e) -CN; provided that in substituent (c), R^9 is other than methyl or ethyl; and provided that in substitutent (d), R^{10} and R^{11} are not both hydrogen;

R^9 is (a) $-(C_1-C_{12})$alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substitutents independently selected from Group V, (b) $-(C_2-C_{12})$alkenyl optionally substituted with phenyl, (c) $-(C_2-C_{12})$dialkenyl, (d) $-(C_3-C_{10})$cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{10} and R^{11} are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1-C_{12})$alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c)

-(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (e) -het;

or R^{10} and R^{11} for any occurrence may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which are they attached to form het;

R^{12} is (a) hydrogen or (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms;

R^{13} is (a) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (b) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -$NR^{17}R^{18}$, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{14} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (c)-O-R^{34};

R^{15} is (a) hydrogen or (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

or R^{14} and R^{15} are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a carbonyl group;

R^{16} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het;

R^{17} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -aryl, (d) -het, (e) -OR^{34} or (f) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

R^{18} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -aryl, (d) -het, (e) -C(O)-R^{28}, (f) -$S(O)_2$-R^{29}, (g) -OR^{34} or (h) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

or R^{17} and R^{18} for any occurrence are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{19} and R^{20} for each occurrence are independently
(a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl,
(d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (e) -C(O)-$NR^{26}R^{27}$, (f) -C(O)-R^{28}, (g) -$S(O)_2$-R^{29}, (h) -OR^{34} or (i) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

or R^{19} and R^{20} for any occurrence are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{21} and R^{22} for each occurrence are independently
(a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c)-aryl, (d) -het, (e) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl or

(f) -OR^{34};

or R^{21} and R^{22} are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{23} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V or (c) -C(O)-R^{24};

R^{24} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{25} for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -COR^{29} or (d) -SO_2R^{29};

R^{26} and R^{27} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het,

R^{28} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{29} is (a) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (b) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -aryl or (e) -het;

R^{30} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_1-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -C(O)-R^{31} or (f) -$S(O)_m$-R^{32};

R^{31} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) –aryl, (f) –het or (g) –OR^{34};

R^{32} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) –het;

R^{33} is (a) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, (b) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (c) -(C_7-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein at least one carbon atom is substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms, (e) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (f) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

R^{34} is (a) -aryl, (b) -het , (c) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (e) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

-(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl for each occurrence is a fully or partially saturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic ring containing three to ten carbon atoms; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic cycloalkyl ring is spiro fused to another cycloalkyl ring or is fused via two carbon atoms to a benzene ring or another cycloalkyl ring; and wherein in the tricyclic ring, a bicyclic ring is spiro fused to a cycloalkyl ring or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring or another cycloalkyl ring;

said -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally contains one to three bridging atoms independently selected from carbon, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; said bridging atoms are attached to two carbon atoms in the ring; and said bridging atoms are optionally substituted with one to three groups independently selected from -(C_1-C_6)alkyl and hydroxy;

said cycloalkyl ring is optionally substituted on one ring if the moiety is monocyclic, on one or both rings if the moiety is bicyclic, or on one, two or three rings if the moiety is tricyclic, with one or more substitutents independently selected from Group V;

Group V is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or two hydroxy, (b) -(C_2-C_5)alkynyl, (c) -halogen, (d) -$NR^{35}R^{36}$, (e) -NO_2, (f) -OCF_3, (g) -OR^{37}, (h) -SR^{37}, (i) -oxo, (j) -trifluoromethyl, (k) -CN, (l) -C(O)NR^{35}-OH, (m) -$COOR^{35}$, (n) -O-C(O)-(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (o) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally substituted with CN, (p) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, (q) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (r) -C(O)-(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (s) -C(O)-aryl;

R^{35} and R^{36} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl;

R^{37} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halo, hydroxy or methoxy, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl or (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het;

aryl is (a) phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z; (b) naphthyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z or (c) biphenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

het for each occurrence is a 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered fully saturated, partially saturated or fully unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocyclic ring containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group

consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heterocyclic ring is spiro fused to a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or to another heterocyclic ring which is fully or partially saturated; or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring, a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or another heterocyclic ring; and wherein in the tricyclic ring, a bicyclic ring is spiro fused to a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or to another heterocyclic ring which is fully or partially saturated; or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring, a (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl ring, or another heterocyclic ring;

said het optionally contains one to three bridging atoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; said bridging atoms are attached to two other atoms in the ring; and said bridging atoms are optionally substituted with one to three groups independently selected from -(C_1-C_6)alkyl and hydroxy;

said het optionally has one or two oxo groups substituted on carbon or one or two oxo groups substituted on sulfur;

said het is optionally substituted on carbon or nitrogen, on one ring if the moiety is monocyclic, on one or both rings if the moiety is bicyclic, or on one, two or three rings if the moiety is tricyclic, with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

Group Z for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) trifluoromethyl, (d) hydroxy, (e) -OCF_3, (f) -CN, (g) -NO_2, (h) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, -OCF_3 and -CF_3, (i) -(C_2-C_6)alkenyl optionally substituted with phenyl, (j) -(C_2-C_5)alkynyl, (k) -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (l) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3, -CF_3, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -(C_1-C_4)alkoxy and –$C(O)CH_3$, (m) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-naphthyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3, -CF_3, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -(C_1-C_4)alkoxy and -$C(O)CH_3$, (n) -$C(O)_2R^{35}$, (o) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-$C(O)NR^{35}R^{36}$, (p) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-$C(O)R^{38}$, (q) -$NR^{35}R^{36}$, (r) -NR^{35}-$C(O)NR^{35}R^{36}$, (s) -NR^{35}-$C(O)R^{36}$, (t) -OR^{37}, (u) -SR^{37}, (v) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (w) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-pyridinyl optionally substituted with one or more -(C_1-C_6)alkyl which is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and halo, (x) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-piperidinyl optionally substituted with one or more -(C_1-C_6)alkyl which is optionally substituted with one or

more substituents independently selected from hydroxy and halo, (y) -SO_2-R^{37}, (z) -SO_2-$NR^{35}R^{36}$ or (a1) -S-phenyl-CH_2OH;

R^{38} is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (b) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenyl, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenanthrenyl optionally substituted with one to three CF_3, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-pyrrolidinyl or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-morpholinyl;

or any two Z Groups for any occurrence in the same variable may be taken together to form (a) a carbocyclic ring of the formula -$(CH_2)_e$- or (b) a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of -$O(CH_2)_fO$-, -$(CH_2)_gNH$- and -CH=CHNH-;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c, f, g, j and k are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

e is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

provided that in a compound of the above formula: 1) the substituent -$C(R^{14})(R^{15})(R^{16})$ in R^4 is other than (C_1-C_4)alkyl; and 2) R^4 is halo only when R^8 is -C(O)-OR^9 or -$C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$.

8. A method of claim 7 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

8-[[5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(4,5-dihydro-3,5-dioxo-1,2,4-triazine-2(3H)-yl)phenoxy]-2-hydroxyphenyl]sulfonyl]-spiro[8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-3,2'-(3'H)-dihydro-furan];

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(3-methyl-3-phenyl-piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

N-cyclohexyl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzenesulfonamide;

N-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

N-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(3-methyl-3-phenyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-N-(6,6-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-yl)-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,5-dimethyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(piperidine-1-carbonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

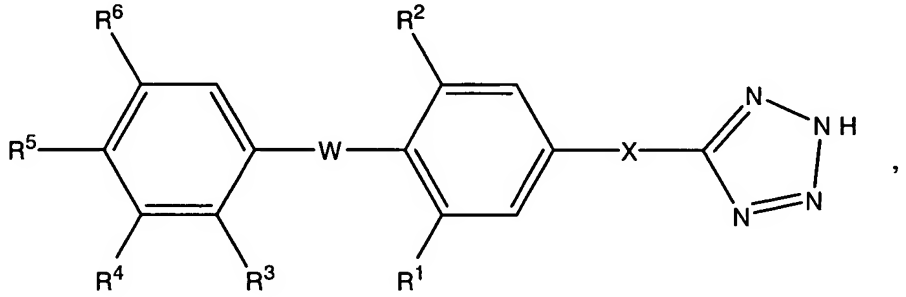
N-cyclohexyl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinoline-2-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione; and

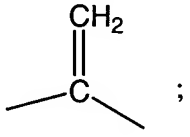
2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione.

9. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



or a stereoisomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein:

W is O, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2, CF_2, CHF, C(=O), CH(OH), NR^a, or



;

X is O, CH_2, CH_2CH_2, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2NR^a, NR^a, or a bond;

each R^a is independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, or C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with one substituent selected from C_3-C_6cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^6 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_8alkyl, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, $-OC_1$-C_8alkyl, or -CN;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl that is substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from Group V], C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, halogen, -CN, $-OR^b$, $-SR^c$, $-S(=O)R^c$, $-S(=O)_2R^c$, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(=O)_2NR^cR^d$, $-C(=O)NR^cR^d$, $-C(=O)OR^c$, $-NR^aC(=O)R^d$, $-NR^aC(=O)NR^cR^d$, $-NR^aS(=O)_2R^d$, $-NR^aR^d$, $-C(=O)R^c$,

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form an unsubstituted or substituted carbocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_i-$ or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-Q-(CH_2)_j-$ and $-(CH_2)_k-Q-(CH_2)_l-$ wherein Q is O, S or NR^a; i is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7; j is 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6; k and l are each independently 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, and any substituents up to four are selected from C_1-C_4alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or $-NR^aR^g$;

R^b is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group V], aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-C(=O)NR^cR^d$, or $-C(=O)R^f$;

R^c and R^d are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group VI], C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl,

or R^c and R^d may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-10 membered unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic ring, which may contain a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e, or S, wherein any substitutents up to four are selected from C_1-C_4alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or $-NR^aR^g$;

R^5 is -OH, $-OC_1$-C_6alkyl, $-OC(=O)R^f$, -F, $-C(=O)OR^c$,

or R^4 and R^5 may together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-CR^c=CR^a-NH-$, $-N=CR^a-NH-$, $-CR^c=CR^a-O-$, $-CR^c=CR^a-S-$, $-CR^c=N-NH-$, or $-CR^a=CR^a-CR^a=N-$;

Group V is halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_6alkoxy, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-SR^f$, $-S(=O)R^f$, $-S(=O)_2R^f$, [$-S(=O)_2NR^aR^f$, wherein R^a and R^f may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-8 membered heterocyclic ring, which may contain

a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e or S], $-NR^aR^g$, or [$-C(=O)NR^aR^f$, wherein R^a and R^f may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-8 membered heterocyclic ring, which may contain a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e or S];

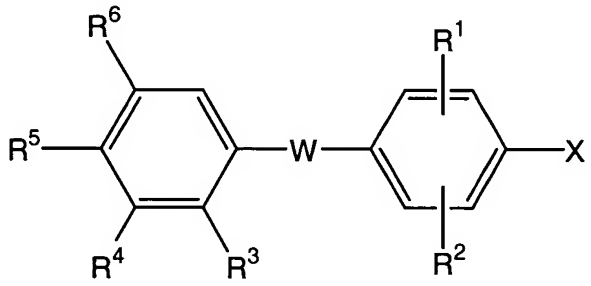
Group VI is halogen, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_6alkoxy, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -CN, or $-OCF_3$;

R^e is hydrogen, -CN, C_1-C_{10}alkyl, [C_1-C_{10}alkyl substituted with one to three substitutents independently selected from Group V], C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkoxy, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $-C(=O)R^f$, $-C(=O)OR^f$, $-C(=O)NR^aR^f$, $-S(=O)_2NR^aR^f$, or $-S(=O)_2R^f$;

R^f is hydrogen, C_1-C_{10}alkyl, [C_1-C_{10}alkyl substituted with from one to three substituents selected from Group VI], C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkoxy, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

R^g is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, aryl, $-C(=O)R^f$, $-C(=O)OR^f$, $-C(=O)NR^aR^f$, or $-S(=O)_2R^f$, provided that R^1 and R^2 are not both hydrogen, further provided that when X is CH_2, W is NR^a, R^3 is hydrogen and R^5 is -OH, then R^6 and R^4 are not both $-C(CH_3)_3$, further provided that when X is CH_2 or CH_2CH_2, W is O, and R^3 and R^6 are hydrogen, then R^4 is not halogen, $-CF_3$, C_1-C_6alkyl or C_3-C_7cycloalkyl, and further provided that when R^3 and R^4 are hydrogen and W is O then R^6 is not halogen, $-CF_3$, C_1-C_6alkyl or C_3-C_7cycloalkyl.

10. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



,

a stereoisomer or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, stereoisomer, or prodrug, wherein:

W is oxygen, sulfur, -SO-, $-S(O)_2$, $-CH_2$-, $-CF_2$-, -CHF-, -C(O)-, -CH(OH)-, $-NR^a$, or $-C(=CH_2)$-;

R^1, R^2, R^3, and R^6 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, -(C_1-C_8)alkyl, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, -O(C_1-C_8)alkyl, or -CN;

R^4 is hydrogen, -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{12})alkynyl, halogen, -CN, $-OR^b$, $-SR^c$, $-S(O)R^c$, $-S(O)_2R^c$, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_2NR^cR^d$, $-C(O)NR^cR^d$, $-C(O)OR^c$, $-NR^aC(O)R^d$, $-NR^aC(O)NR^cR^d$, $-NR^aS(O)_2R^d$, or $-C(O)R^c$; or

R^3 and R^4 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a carbocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_i-$ or a heterocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_k$-Q-$(CH_2)_l-$ wherein Q is oxygen, sulfur, or $-NR^e-$; i is 3, 4, 5, or 6; k is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and l is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and wherein said carbocyclic ring and said heterocyclic ring are each substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or - NR^aR^g;

R^5 is hydroxy, -O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, $-OC(O)R^f$, fluorine, or $-C(O)OR^c$; or

R^4 and R^5 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of -CR^c=CR^a-NH-, -N=CR^a-NH, -CR^c=CR^a-O-, -CR^c=CR^a-S-, -CR^c=N-NH-, and -CR^a=CR^a-CR^a=N-;

R^a for each occurence is independently hydrogen, or -(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^b for each occurence is independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-C(O)NR^cR^d$, or $-C(O)R^f$;

R^c and R^d for each occurence are each independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{12})alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl;

provided that when R^4 is the moiety $-SR^c$, $-S(O)R^c$, or $-S(O)_2R^c$, R^c is other than hydrogen; or

R^c and R^d are taken together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached to form a 3-10 membered heterocylic ring which may optionally contain a second heterogroup selected from oxygen, $-NR^e-$, or sulfur; and wherein said heterocyclic ring is substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or $-NR^aR^g$;

R^e for each occurence is hydrogen, -CN, -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, -(C_2-C_{10})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{10})alkoxy, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, -C(O)R^f, -C(O)OR^f, -C(O)NR^aR^f, or -$S(O)_2R^f$;

R^f for each occurence is independently -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{10})alkynyl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl;

R^g for each occurence is independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, aryl, -C(O)R^f, -C(O)OR^f, -C(O)NR^aR^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, or -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl;

Group V is halogen, -CF_3, -OCF_3, -OH, oxo, -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -SR^f, -S(O)R^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, - NR^aR^g, or -C(O)NR^aR^f;

Group VI is halogen, hydroxy, oxo, -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -CN, or -OCF_3;

provided that when R^4 is -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, wherein said Group V substituent is oxo, said oxo group is substituted on a carbon atom other than the C_1 carbon atom in -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl;

aryl for each occurence is independently phenyl or naphthyl substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from halogen, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -CN, -SR^f, -S(O)R^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, - NR^aR^g, -C(O)NR^aR^f, -OR^b, -perfluoro-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, or -COOR^f;

provided that when said substituent(s) on aryl are -SR^f, -S(O)R^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, -NR^aR^g, -C(O)NR^aR^f, -OR^b, or -COOR^f, said substituents R^b, R^f, and R^g, are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

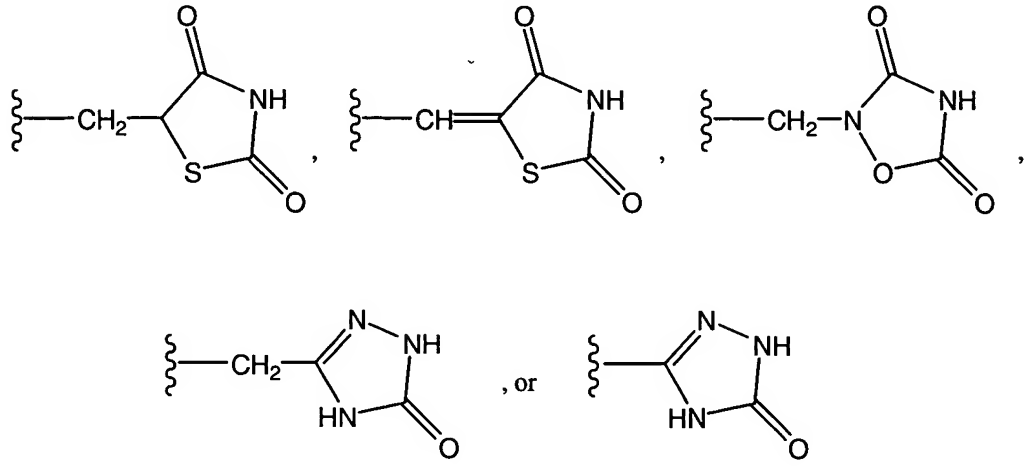
heteroaryl for each occurence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-membered monocyclic or bicyclic ring having from one to three heteroatoms selected from O, N, or S;

wherein in said bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heteroaryl ring is fused to a benzene ring or to another heteroaryl ring, and having zero to three substituents independently selected from halogen, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -CF_3, -OR^b, -NR^aR^g, or -COOR^f;

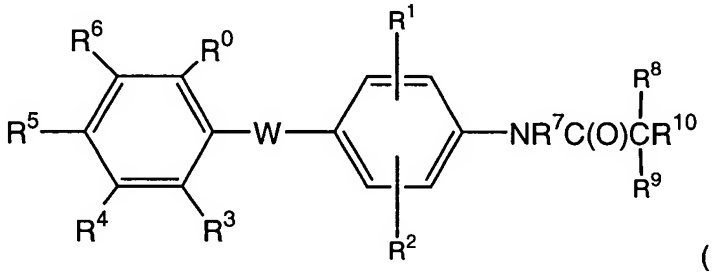
provided that when said substituent(s) on heteroaryl are -NR^aR^g, -OR^b, or -COOR^f, said substituents R^b, R^f, and R^g, are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heterocycloalkyl for each occurence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cycloalkyl ring having from one to three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, -NR^e, or sulfur, and having zero to four substituents independently selected from -$(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, -OR^b, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or -NR^aR^g; and

X is



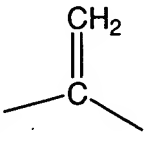
11. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



(I)

an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein W is (a) -O-, (b) -S-, (c) -SO-, (d) -SO_2-, (e) -CH_2-, (f) -CF_2-, (g) -CHF-,



; (h) -C(O)-, (i) -CH(OH)-, (j) -NR^a or (k)

R^0 is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (1) -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (2) heterocycloalkyl and (3) phenyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (ii) halogen, (iii) -CF_3 and (iv) –OCF_3; (c) -$C(O)R^h$, (d) –$S(O)_2R^h$ or (e) halogen;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^6 are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) –(C_1-C_8)alkyl, (d) -CF_3, (e) -OCF_3, (f) –O(C_1-C_8)alkyl, or (g) -CN;

R^4 is (a) hydrogen, (b) –(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) –(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) –(C_2-C_{12})alkynyl, (e) halogen, (f) -CN, (g) –OR^b, (h) –SR^c, (i) –$S(O)R^c$, (j) –$S(O)_2R^c$, (k) aryl, (l) heteroaryl, (m) –(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (n) heterocycloalkyl, (o) -$S(O)_2NR^cR^d$, (p) –$C(O)NR^cR^d$, (q) –$C(O)OR^c$, (r) –$NR^aC(O)R^d$, (s) –$NR^aC(O)NR^cR^d$, (t) –$NR^aS(O)_2R^d$, (u) –NR^aR^d or (v) –$C(O)R^c$;

or R^3 and R^4 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a carbocyclic ring of formula -$(CH_2)_i$- or a heterocyclic ring of formula –$(CH_2)_k$-Q-$(CH_2)_l$- wherein Q is -O-, -S- or –NR^e-; i is 3, 4, 5 or 6; k is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and l is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and wherein the carbocyclic ring and the heterocyclic ring are each substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) –(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (b) –OR^b, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) -NR^aR^g;

R^5 is (a) -OH, (b) –O(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) –$OC(O)R^f$, (d) F, or (e) –$C(O)OR^c$;

or R^4 and R^5 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of –CR^c=CR^a-NH-, -N=CR^a-NH, -CR^c=CR^a-O-, -CR^c=CR^a-S-, -CR^c=N-NH- and –CR^a=CR^a-CR^a=N-;

R^7 is (a) hydrogen or (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) aryl, or (d) halogen;

R^{10} is (a) –(C_0-C_1)alkyl-C(O)OH, (b) –(C_0-C_1)alkyl-$C(O)OR^f$, (c) –(C_0-C_1)alkyl-$C(O)NR^cR^d$, or (d) –(C_0-C_1)alkyl-OH;

R^a for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen or (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one –(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^b for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c)

aryl, (d) heteroaryl, (e) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (f) heterocycloalkyl, (g) -$C(O)NR^cR^d$, or (h) -$C(O)R^f$;

R^c and R^d for each occurrence are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_2-C_{12})alkynyl, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl, (g) –(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl or (h) heterocycloalkyl;

provided that when R^4 is the moiety $–SR^c$, $–S(O)R^c$ or $–S(O)_2R^c$, R^c is other than hydrogen;

or R^c and R^d are taken together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached to form a 3-10 membered heterocyclic ring which may optionally contain a second heterogroup selected from -O-, $-NR^e$- or –S-; and wherein the heterocyclic ring is substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) –(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (b) $–OR^b$, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) $-NR^aR^g$;

R^e for each occurrence is (a) hydrogen, (b) –CN, (c) -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substitutents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_2-C_{10})alkenyl, (e) -(C_2-C_{10})alkoxy, (f) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (g) aryl, (h) heteroaryl, (i) -$C(O)R^f$, (j) -$C(O)OR^f$, (k) -$C(O)NR^aR^f$ or (l) -$S(O)_2R^f$;

R^f for each occurrence is independently (a) -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from the Group VI, (b) -(C_2-C_{10})alkenyl, (c) -(C_2-C_{10})alkynyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl or (g) heterocycloalkyl;

R^g for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) –(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (d) aryl, (e) -$C(O)R^f$, (f) -$C(O)OR^f$, (g) -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, (h) -$S(O)_2R^f$ or (i) -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl;

R^h is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (1) -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (2) heterocycloalkyl and (3) phenyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (ii) halogen, (iii) $-CF_3$ and (iv) $–OCF_3$; (b) phenyl substituted with zero to two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of (1) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (2) halogen, (3) $-CF_3$ and (4) $–OCF_3$; (c) -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl or (d) heterocycloalkyl;

Group V is (a) halogen, (b) $–CF_3$, (c) $–OCF_3$, (d) -OH, (e) –oxo, (f) –(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (g) –CN, (h) aryl, (i) heteroaryl, (j) –(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (k) heterocycloalkyl, (l) $–SR^f$, (m) $–S(O)R^f$, (n) $–S(O)_2R^f$, (o) $–S(O)_2NR^aR^f$ (p) $–NR^aR^g$ or (q) $–C(O)NR^aR^f$;

Group VI is (a) halogen, (b) hydroxy, (c) oxo, (d) -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl, (g) -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, (h) heterocycloalkyl, (i) -CN, or (j) -OCF_3;

provided that when the substituent R^4 is –(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V wherein the Group V substituent is oxo, the oxo group is substituted on a carbon atom other than the C_1 carbon atom in –(C_1-C_{12})alkyl;

aryl for each occurrence is independently phenyl or naphthyl substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) halogen, (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -CN, (d) –SR^f, (e) -$S(O)R^f$, (f) -$S(O)_2R^f$, (g) –(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (h) -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, (i) -NR^aR^g, (j) -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, (k) -OR^b, (l) -perfluoro-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, or (m) –$COOR^f$;

provided that when the substituent(s) on aryl are –SR^f, -$S(O)R^f$, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, -NR^aR^g, -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, -OR^b, or –$COOR^f$, the substituents R^b, R^f and R^g are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heteroaryl for each occurrence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9- or 10-membered monocyclic or bicyclic ring having from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N or S; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heteroaryl ring is fused to a benzene ring or to another heteroaryl ring; and having zero to three substituents independently selected from (a) halogen, (b) –(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (c) -CF_3, (d) -OR^b, (e) -NR^aR^g, or (f) -CO_2R^f;

provided that when the substituent(s) on heteroaryl are -OR^b, -NR^aR^g or -CO_2R^f, the substituents R^b, R^f and R^g are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heterocycloalkyl for each occurrence is independently a 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9- or 10-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cycloalkyl ring having from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, NR^e or S; and having zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) –(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (b) –OR^b, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) -NR^aR^g.

12. A method of claim 11 which comprises administering a compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-((1S)-cyclohexyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylacetyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-(4-{3-[(4-fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy}-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl)-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(2-cyclopentyl-1-hydroxy-ethyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]- phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]- phenyl}-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

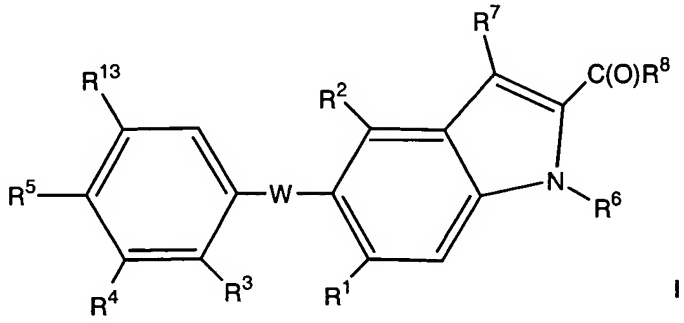
N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester; and

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid; and

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester; or an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug.

13. A method for increasing the rate of nail growth in a mammal which comprises the administration to the mammal of an effective amount of a compound of the formula



I

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

W is oxygen, CH_2, CF_2, NR^{12}, $S(O)_m$ wherein m is 0, 1 or 2;

R^1, R^2, and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluomethoxy and $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, halo, cyano, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkynyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-OR^9$, $-S(O)_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(O)R^{10}$, -

$CH(OH)R^{10}$, $-NR^{12}C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^{12}C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-NR^{12}S(O)_2R^{10}$ or $-S(O)_nR^{10}$ wherein n is 0, 1 or 2;

R^5 is hydroxy, fluoro, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkoxy or $-OC(O)R^{10}$;

R^6 is hydrogen, $-C(O)CH_3$ or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^7 is hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^8 is OR^{12} or NR^9R^{12};

R^9 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl or $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl;

R^{10} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkynyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_9)$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl or halo$(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl;

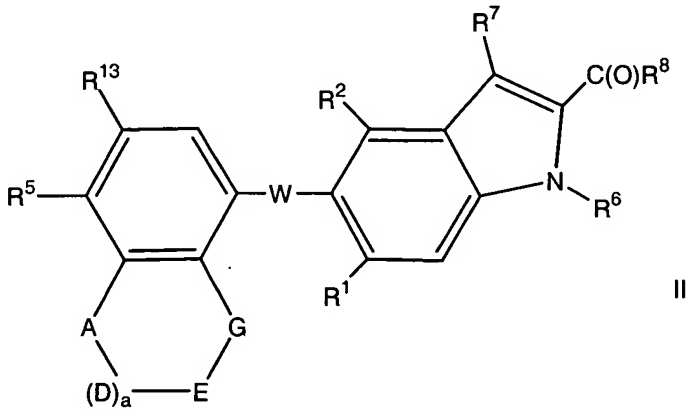
R^{11} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$ cycloalkyl or $(C_3\text{-}C_9)$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

or R^{10} and R^{11} may be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a 3 to 10 membered heterocyclic group which may contain a second heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR^{14} wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^{12} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^{13} is hydrogen, halo or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together with the carbons to which they are attached to form a compound of the formula



II

wherein a is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

A, D, E and G are each independently selected from the group consisting of $CR^{16}R^{17}$, NR^{18}, oxygen or sulfur;

R^{16} and R^{17} for each occurrence are each independently selected from hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl; and

R^{18} is hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-C(O)R^{10}$ or $-S(O)_2R^{10}$ wherein R^{10} is defined as above.

14. A method of claim 13 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-sec-butyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-{3-[(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy}-4,6-dimethyl-1H-ondole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(2-Cyclopentyl-1-hydroxy-ethyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(Cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-3-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4-Chloro-50(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[4-hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-1,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5{3-[(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[4-Hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-{3-[(4-fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-2,3-dimethyl-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-2,3-dimethyl-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(7-Hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(7-hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid; and

5-(4-Hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid.

15. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 wherein the compound is cardiac-sparing.

16. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 wherein the mammal is a human being.

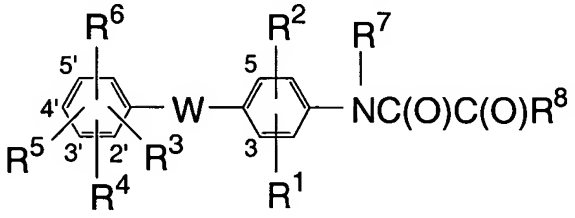
17. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 wherein the administration is topical.

18. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 wherein the effective amount of the compound is about 0.0001% to about 10% (w/v) of the compound per day.

19. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 which comprises the administration of an effective amount of a nail growth promoter, an antibacterial agent or an antifungal agent.

20. A method of claim 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 or 13 wherein the antifungal agent is fluconazole, itraconazole, terbinafine or ciclopirox.

21. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



a prodrug thereof, a geometric or optical isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, said prodrug, or said isomer, wherein:

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, -CN, $-OCF_3$ or $-OC_{1-6}$ alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substitutents independently selected from Group Z, C_{2-12} alkenyl, halogen, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9S(O)_2R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-OR^{11}$, $-OR^{11}$ or $-S(O)_aR^{12}$, provided that, where R^5 is not fluoro, R^4 is $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^9C(O)NR^9R^{10}$, $-NR^9S(O)_2R^{10}$, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)$-OR^{11}$, $-OR^{11}$ or $-S(O)_aR^{12}$;

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together to form a carbocyclic ring A of the formula $-(CH_2)_b-$ or a heterocyclic ring A selected from the group consisting of $-Q-(CH_2)_c-$ and $-(CH_2)_j-Q-(CH_2)_k-$ wherein Q is O, S or NR^{17}, wherein said carbocyclic ring A and said heterocyclic ring A are each independently optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halide or oxo;

R^5 is fluoro, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy or $OC(O)R^9$;

or R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring B selected from the group consisting of $-CR^9=CR^{10}-NH-$, $-N=CR^9-NH-$, $-CR^9=CH-O-$ and $-CR^9=CH-S-$;

R^6 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or trifluoromethyl;

R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^8 is $-OR^9$ or $-NR^{19}R^{20}$;

R^9 and R^{10} for each occurrence are independently (A) hydrogen, (B) C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (C) C_{2-12} alkenyl, (D) C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, -CN, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, oxo, $-OR^{18}$, $-COOR^{18}$ or aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, (E) aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, or (F) het optionally substituted with X and Y;

or R^9 and R^{10} for any occurrence may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring C optionally further containing a second heterogroup selected from the group consisting of -O-, $-NR^{13}-$ and -S-, and optionally further substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from C_{1-5} alkyl, oxo, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-OR^{18}$, $-C(O)_2R^{18}$, -CN, $-C(O)R^9$, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, C_{5-6} spirocycloalkyl, and a carbocyclic ring B selected from the group consisting of 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated carbocyclic rings, and including any bicyclic group in

which said carbocyclic ring B is fused to a carbocyclic ring C selected from the group consisting of 5-, 6-, 7-and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated carbocyclic rings;

R^{11} is C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, monofluoromethyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-C(O)NR^9R^{10}$ or $-C(O)R^9$;

R^{12} is C_{1-12} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, or het optionally substituted with X and Y;

R^{13} and R^{14} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-hydroxy, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-poly-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-$CONR^{15}R^{16}$ or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

R^{15} and R^{16} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl or aryl optionally substituted with X and Y;

R^{17} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-COR^9$ or $-SO_2R^9$;

R^{18} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl)-C_{1-6} alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-hydroxy, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-poly-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-$CONR^{15}R^{16}$, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl)-$(C_{1-4}$ alkoxy) or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

R^{19} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{20} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

W is O, $S(O)_d$, CH_2 or NR^9 ;

Group Z is C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, halogen, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, hydroxy, oxo, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_aR^{12}$, $-S(O)_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-C(O)R^9R^{10}$, and $-NR^9R^{10}$;

Group V is halogen, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-OCF_3$, $-OR^9$, oxo, trifluoromethyl, -CN, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, and het optionally substituted with X and Y;

het for each occurrence is a heterocyclic ring D selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and including any bicyclic group in which said heterocyclic ring D is fused to a benzene ring or a heterocyclic ring E selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

X and Y for each occurrence are independently (A) hydrogen, (B) halogen, (C) trifluoromethyl, (D) $-OCF_3$, (E) -CN, (F) C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$ and phenyl, (G) C_{1-6} alkoxy, (H) aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy, (I) $-C(O)_2R^{13}$, (J) $-C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}$, (K) $-C(O)R^{13}$, (L) $-NR^{13}C(O)NR^{13}R^{14}$ and (M) $-NR^{13}C(O)R^{14}$;

or X and Y for any occurrence in the same variable may be taken together to form (a) a carbocyclic ring D of the formula $-(CH_2)_e-$ or (b) a heterocyclic ring F selected from the group consisting of $-O(CH_2)_fO-$, $(CH_2)_gNH-$ and -CH=CHNH- ;

a and d are each independently 0, 1 or 2;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c, f, g, j and k are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

e is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. A composition of claim 21 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(7-hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

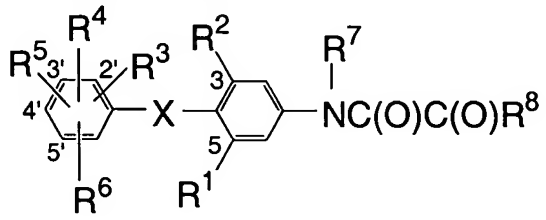
N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-oxamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid; and

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-oxamic acid.

23. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



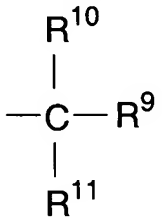
a prodrug thereof, a geometric or optical isomer thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, said prodrug, or said isomer, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently halogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, -CN or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl; provided that at least one of R^1 and R^2 is -CN;

R^3 is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

R^4 is halogen, C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{1-8} alkanoyl, hydroxy-(C_{1-8} alkyl), aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z, aryl-(C_{1-8} alkyl), carbocyclic aroyl optionally substituted with Y and Z, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with Y and Z, or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl-(C_{1-8} alkyl);

or R^4 is the radical



wherein: R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z, aryl-(C_{1-8} alkyl), C_{3-10} cycloalkyl optionally substituted with Y and Z, or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl-(C_{1-8} alkyl); R^{10} is $-OR^{14}$; R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl; or R^{10} and R^{11} may be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a carbonyl group;

R^5 is hydroxy, esterified hydroxy or etherified hydroxy;

R^6 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl;

R^7 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} perfluoroalkyl;

R^8 is $-OR^{12}$ or $-NR^{12}R^{13}$;

R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl or C_{1-8} acyl;

X is O, $S(O)_a$, C=O or NR^{15} ;

a is 0, 1 or 2;

R^{15} is hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

Y and Z for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) trifluoromethyl, (d) $-OCF_3$, (e) -CN, (f) C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$ and phenyl, (g) C_{1-6} alkoxy, (h) aryl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, $-OCF_3$, $-CF_3$, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy, (i) $-C(O)_2R^{16}$, (j) $-C(O)NR^{16}R^{17}$, (k) $-C(O)R^{16}$, (l) $-NR^{16}C(O)NR^{16}R^{17}$ or (m) $-NR^{16}C(O)R^{17}$; or Y and Z for any occurrence may be taken together to form (a) a carbocycle of the formula $-(CH_2)_b$, or (b) a heterocycle selected from the group consisting of $-O(CH_2)_cO-$, $-(CH_2)_dNH-$ and -CH=CHNH- ;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c and d are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

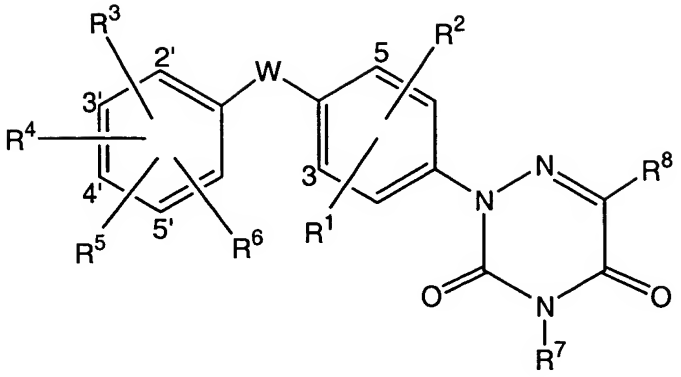
R^{16} and R^{17} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, $-(C_{1-6}$ alkyl$)-C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, het optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)$-aryl optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)$-heterocycle optionally substituted with X and Y, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)$-hydroxy, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)$-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)$-poly-halo, $-(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)-CONR^{18}R^{19}$ or C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;

het for each occurrence is a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and including any bicyclic group in which said heterocyclic ring is fused to a benzene ring or a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered partially and fully saturated, and unsaturated, heterocyclic rings containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S; and

R^{18} and R^{19} for each occurrence are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl or aryl optionally substituted with Y and Z;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein W is (a) -O-, (b) -$S(O)_m$-, (c) -NR^{30}-, (d) -C(O)-, (e) -HC=CH-, (f) -CH_2-, (g) -CHF-, (h) -CF_2- or (i) -CH(OH)-;

R^1 and R^2 are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (d) -CN, (e) -OR^{12} or (f) -trifluoromethyl;

R^3 is (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3 and -CF_3, (d) -CN, (e) -OR^{12}, (f) -trifluoromethyl, (g) -NO_2, (h) -SO_2-R^{13}, (i) -$C(O)_2R^9$, (j) -$C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (k) -$C(O)R^{16}$, (l) -$NR^{21}C(O)$-$NR^{21}R^{22}$, (m) -NR^{19}-$C(O)R^{20}$ or (n) -$NR^{17}R^{18}$;

R^4 is (a) -$C(R^{14})(R^{15})(R^{16})$, (b) -($C_0$-$C_3$)alkyl-$NR^{17}R^{18}$, (c) -$C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (d) -$NR^{19}$-C(O)-$R^{20}$, (e) -($C_0$-$C_3$)alkyl-$NR^{21}$-C(O)-$NR^{21}R^{22}$, (f) -$S(O)_m$-$R^{22}$, (g) -$S(O)_2$-$NR^{21}R^{22}$, (h) -$NR^{21}$-$S(O)_2$-$R^{22}$, (i) -aryl, (j) -het, (k) -OR^{33} or (l) halogen; provided that in substituents (f) and (h), R^{22} is other than –OR^{34}; and provided that when substituent (b) is -(C_0)alkyl-$NR^{17}R^{18}$, R^{18} is other than -C(O)-R^{28} or -$S(O)_2$-R^{29};

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together to form a carbocyclic ring of Formula -$(CH_2)_b$- or a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of -Q-$(CH_2)_c$- and -$(CH_2)_j$-Q-$(CH_2)_k$- wherein Q is O, S or NR^{25}; wherein said carbocyclic ring is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V; and wherein said heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

R^5 is -OR^{23};

or R^4 and R^5 may be taken together to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of –CR^{31}=CR^{32}-NH-, -N=CR^{31}-NH-, -CR^{31}=CR^{32}-O- and -CR^{31}=CR^{32}-S-;

R^6 is (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3 and -CF_3, (d) -CN, (e) -OR^{12}, (f) -trifluoromethyl, (g) -NO_2, (h) -SO_2-R^{13}, (i) -$C(O)_2R^9$, (j) -$C(O)NR^{19}R^{20}$, (k) -$C(O)R^{16}$, (l) -$NR^{21}C(O)NR^{21}R^{22}$, (m) -NR^{19}-$C(O)R^{20}$ or (n) -$NR^{17}R^{18}$;

R^7 is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 halo atoms or (c) -$(CH_2)_nCOOR^9$;

R^8 is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -C(O)-OR^9, (d) -$C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or (e) -CN; provided that in substituent (c), R^9 is other than methyl or ethyl; and provided that in substitutent (d), R^{10} and R^{11} are not both hydrogen;

R^9 is (a) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substitutents independently selected from Group V, (b) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl optionally substituted with phenyl, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})dialkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{10} and R^{11} are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (e) -het;

or R^{10} and R^{11} for any occurrence may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which are they attached to form het;

R^{12} is (a) hydrogen or (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms;

R^{13} is (a) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (b) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -$NR^{17}R^{18}$, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{14} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (c)-O-R^{34};

R^{15} is (a) hydrogen or (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl;

or R^{14} and R^{15} are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a carbonyl group;

R^{16} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein each carbon atom is optionally substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het;

R^{17} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -aryl, (d) -het, (e) -OR^{34} or (f) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

R^{18} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -aryl, (d) -het, (e) -C(O)-R^{28}, (f) -$S(O)_2$-R^{29}, (g) -OR^{34} or (h) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

or R^{17} and R^{18} for any occurrence are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{19} and R^{20} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (e) -C(O)-$NR^{26}R^{27}$, (f) -C(O)-R^{28}, (g) -$S(O)_2$-R^{29}, (h) -OR^{34} or (i) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

or R^{19} and R^{20} for any occurrence are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{21} and R^{22} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c)-aryl, (d) -het, (e) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl or (f) -OR^{34};

or R^{21} and R^{22} are taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form het;

R^{23} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V or (c) -C(O)-R^{24};

R^{24} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{25} for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -COR^{29} or (d) -SO_2R^{29};

R^{26} and R^{27} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het,

R^{28} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) -het;

R^{29} is (a) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (b) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (c) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (d) -aryl or (e) -het;

R^{30} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_1-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -C(O)-R^{31} or (f) -$S(O)_m$-R^{32};

R^{31} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) –aryl, (f) –het or (g) –OR^{34};

R^{32} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) -aryl or (f) –het;

R^{33} is (a) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, (b) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (c) -(C_7-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl wherein at least one carbon atom is substituted with 1 to 3 fluoro atoms, (e) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (f) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

R^{34} is (a) -aryl, (b) -het , (c) -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group V, (d) -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl or (e) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl;

-(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl for each occurrence is a fully or partially saturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic ring containing three to ten carbon atoms; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic cycloalkyl ring is spiro fused to another cycloalkyl ring or is fused via two carbon atoms to a benzene ring or another cycloalkyl ring; and wherein in the tricyclic ring, a bicyclic ring is spiro fused to a cycloalkyl ring or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring or another cycloalkyl ring;

said -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally contains one to three bridging atoms independently selected from carbon, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; said bridging atoms are attached to two carbon atoms in the ring; and said bridging atoms are optionally substituted with one to three groups independently selected from -(C_1-C_6)alkyl and hydroxy;

said cycloalkyl ring is optionally substituted on one ring if the moiety is monocyclic, on one or both rings if the moiety is bicyclic, or on one, two or three rings if the moiety is tricyclic, with one or more substitutents independently selected from Group V;

Group V is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or two hydroxy, (b) -(C_2-C_5)alkynyl, (c) -halogen, (d) -$NR^{35}R^{36}$, (e) -NO_2, (f) -OCF_3, (g) -OR^{37}, (h) -SR^{37}, (i) -oxo, (j) -trifluoromethyl, (k) -CN, (l) -C(O)NR^{35}-OH, (m) -$COOR^{35}$, (n) -O-

C(O)-(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (o) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl optionally substituted with CN, (p) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl, (q) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het, (r) -C(O)-(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (s) -C(O)-aryl;

R^{35} and R^{36} for each occurrence are independently (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl;

R^{37} is (a) hydrogen, (b) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halo, hydroxy or methoxy, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-aryl or (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-het;

aryl is (a) phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z; (b) naphthyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z or (c) biphenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

het for each occurrence is a 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-membered fully saturated, partially saturated or fully unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocyclic ring containing from one to four heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heterocyclic ring is spiro fused to a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or to another heterocyclic ring which is fully or partially saturated; or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring, a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or another heterocyclic ring; and wherein in the tricyclic ring, a bicyclic ring is spiro fused to a -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl ring or to another heterocyclic ring which is fully or partially saturated; or is fused via two atoms to a benzene ring, a (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl ring, or another heterocyclic ring;

said het optionally contains one to three bridging atoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; said bridging atoms are attached to two other atoms in the ring; and said bridging atoms are optionally substituted with one to three groups independently selected from -(C_1-C_6)alkyl and hydroxy;

said het optionally has one or two oxo groups substituted on carbon or one or two oxo groups substituted on sulfur;

said het is optionally substituted on carbon or nitrogen, on one ring if the moiety is monocyclic, on one or both rings if the moiety is bicyclic, or on one, two or three rings if the moiety is tricyclic, with one or more substituents independently selected from Group Z;

Group Z for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) trifluoromethyl, (d) hydroxy, (e) -OCF_3, (f) -CN, (g) -NO_2, (h) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, -OCF_3 and -CF_3, (i) -(C_2-C_6)alkenyl

optionally substituted with phenyl, (j) -(C_2-C_5)alkynyl, (k) -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (l) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3, -CF_3, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -(C_1-C_4)alkoxy and –$C(O)CH_3$, (m) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-naphthyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OCF_3, -CF_3, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -(C_1-C_4)alkoxy and -$C(O)CH_3$, (n) -$C(O)_2R^{35}$, (o) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-$C(O)NR^{35}R^{36}$, (p) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-$C(O)R^{38}$, (q) -$NR^{35}R^{36}$, (r) -NR^{35}-$C(O)NR^{35}R^{36}$, (s) -NR^{35}-$C(O)R^{36}$, (t) -OR^{37}, (u) -SR^{37}, (v) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (w) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-pyridinyl optionally substituted with one or more -(C_1-C_6)alkyl which is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and halo, (x) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-piperidinyl optionally substituted with one or more -(C_1-C_6)alkyl which is optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from hydroxy and halo, (y) -SO_2-R^{37}, (z) -SO_2-$NR^{35}R^{36}$ or (a1) -S-phenyl-CH_2OH;

R^{38} is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (b) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenyl, (c) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-phenanthrenyl optionally substituted with one to three CF_3, (d) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-pyrrolidinyl or (e) -(C_0-C_6)alkyl-morpholinyl;

or any two Z Groups for any occurrence in the same variable may be taken together to form (a) a carbocyclic ring of the formula -$(CH_2)_e$- or (b) a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of -$O(CH_2)_fO$-, -$(CH_2)_gNH$- and -CH=CHNH-;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

n is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

b is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

c, f, g, j and k are each independently 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

e is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7;

provided that in a compound of the above formula: 1) the substituent -$C(R^{14})(R^{15})(R^{16})$ in R^4 is other than (C_1-C_4)alkyl; and 2) R^4 is halo only when R^8 is -C(O)-OR^9 or -$C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25. A composition of claim 24 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

8-[[5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(4,5-dihydro-3,5-dioxo-1,2,4-triazine-2(3H)-yl)phenoxy]-2-hydroxyphenyl]sulfonyl]-spiro[8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane-3,2'-(3'H)-dihydro-furan];

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(3-methyl-3-phenyl-piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

N-cyclohexyl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzenesulfonamide;

N-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

N-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(3-methyl-3-phenyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-N-(6,6-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-yl)-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,5-dimethyl-piperidine-1-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(piperidine-1-carbonyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

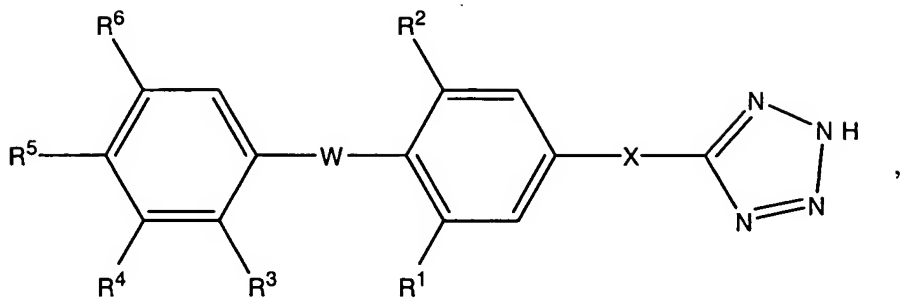
N-cyclohexyl-5-[2,6-dichloro-4-(3,5-dioxo-4,5-dihydro-3H-[1,2,4]triazin-2-yl)-phenoxy]-2-hydroxy-benzamide;

2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinoline-2-carbonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione;

2-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione; and

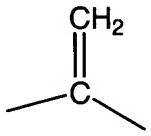
2-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2H-[1,2,4]triazine-3,5-dione.

26. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



or a stereoisomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the prodrug, wherein:

W is O, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2, CF_2, CHF, C(=O), CH(OH), NR^a, or



;

X is O, CH_2, CH_2CH_2, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2NR^a, NR^a, or a bond;

each R^a is independently hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, or C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with one substituent selected from C_3-C_6cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^6 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_8alkyl, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, $-OC_1$-C_8alkyl, or -CN;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl that is substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from Group V], C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, halogen, -CN, $-OR^b$, $-SR^c$, $-S(=O)R^c$, $-S(=O)_2R^c$, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(=O)_2NR^cR^d$, $-C(=O)NR^cR^d$, $-C(=O)OR^c$, $-NR^aC(=O)R^d$, $-NR^aC(=O)NR^cR^d$, $-NR^aS(=O)_2R^d$, $-NR^aR^d$, $-C(=O)R^c$,

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form an unsubstituted or substituted carbocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_i-$ or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-Q-(CH_2)_j-$ and $-(CH_2)_k-Q-(CH_2)_l-$ wherein Q is O, S or NR^a; i is 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7; j is 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6; k and l are each independently 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, and any substituents up to four are selected from C_1-C_4alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or $-NR^aR^g$;

R^b is hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group V], aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-C(=O)NR^cR^d$, or $-C(=O)R^f$;

R^c and R^d are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, [C_1-C_{12}alkyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from Group VI], C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10} cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl,

or R^c and R^d may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-10 membered unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic ring, which may contain a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e, or S, wherein any substitutents up to four are selected from C_1-C_4alkyl, -OR^b, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or -NR^aR^g;

R^5 is -OH, -OC_1-C_6alkyl, -OC(=O)R^f, -F, -C(=O)OR^c,

or R^4 and R^5 may together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of –CR^c=CR^a-NH-, -N=CR^a-NH-, -CR^c=CR^a-O-, -CR^c=CR^a-S-, -CR^c=N-NH-, or -CR^a=CR^a-CR^a=N-;

Group V is halogen, -CF_3, -OCF_3, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_6alkoxy, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -SR^f, -S(=O)R^f, -$S(=O)_2R^f$, [-$S(=O)_2NR^aR^f$, wherein R^a and R^f may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-8 membered heterocyclic ring, which may contain a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e or S], -NR^aR^g, or [-C(=O)NR^aR^f, wherein R^a and R^f may together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a 3-8 membered heterocyclic ring, which may contain a second heterogroup selected from O, NR^e or S];

Group VI is halogen, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_6alkoxy, aryl, heteroaryl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -CN, or -OCF_3;

R^e is hydrogen, -CN, C_1-C_{10}alkyl, [C_1-C_{10}alkyl substituted with one to three substitutents independently selected from Group V], C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkoxy, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, -C(=O)R^f, -C(=O)OR^f, -C(=O)NR^aR^f, -$S(=O)_2NR^aR^f$, or -$S(=O)_2R^f$;

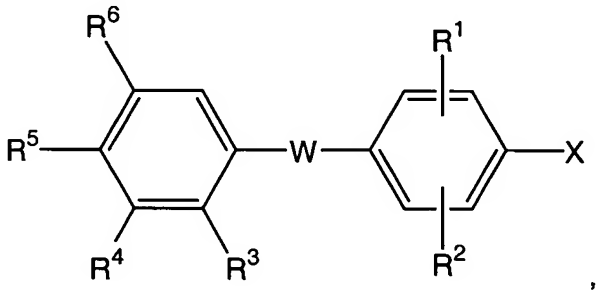
R^f is hydrogen, C_1-C_{10}alkyl, [C_1-C_{10}alkyl substituted with from one to three substituents selected from Group VI], C_2-C_{10}alkenyl, C_2-C_{10}alkoxy, C_3-C_{10}cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

R^g is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, aryl, -C(=O)R^f, -C(=O)OR^f, -C(=O)NR^aR^f, or -$S(=O)_2R^f$, provided that R^1 and R^2 are not both hydrogen, further provided that when X is CH_2, W is NR^a, R^3 is hydrogen and R^5 is

-OH, then R^6 and R^4 are not both $-C(CH_3)_3$, further provided that when X is CH_2 or CH_2CH_2, W is O, and R^3 and R^6 are hydrogen, then R^4 is not halogen, $-CF_3$, C_1-C_6alkyl or C_3-C_7cycloalkyl, and further provided that when R^3 and R^4 are hydrogen and W is O then R^6 is not halogen, $-CF_3$, C_1-C_6alkyl or C_3-C_7cycloalkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

27. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



a stereoisomer or prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, stereoisomer, or prodrug, wherein:

W is oxygen, sulfur, -SO-, $-S(O)_2$, $-CH_2$-, $-CF_2$-, -CHF-, -C(O)-, -CH(OH)-, $-NR^a$, or $-C(=CH_2)$-;

R^1, R^2, R^3, and R^6 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, $-(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, $-O(C_1$-$C_8)$alkyl, or -CN;

R^4 is hydrogen, $-(C_1$-$C_{12})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, $-(C_2$-$C_{12})$alkenyl, $-(C_2$-$C_{12})$alkynyl, halogen, -CN, $-OR^b$, $-SR^c$, $-S(O)R^c$, $-S(O)_2R^c$, aryl, heteroaryl, $-(C_3$-$C_{10})$cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, $-S(O)_2NR^cR^d$, $-C(O)NR^cR^d$, $-C(O)OR^c$, $-NR^aC(O)R^d$, $-NR^aC(O)NR^cR^d$, $-NR^aS(O)_2R^d$, or $-C(O)R^c$; or

R^3 and R^4 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a carbocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_i$- or a heterocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_k$-Q-$(CH_2)_l$- wherein Q is oxygen, sulfur, or $-NR^e$-; i is 3, 4, 5, or 6; k is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and l is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5; and wherein said carbocyclic ring and said heterocyclic ring are each substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from $-(C_1$-$C_4)$alkyl, $-OR^b$, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or $-NR^aR^g$;

R^5 is hydroxy, $-O(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl, $-OC(O)R^f$, fluorine, or $-C(O)OR^c$; or

R^4 and R^5 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of -

$CR^c=CR^a$-NH-, -N=CR^a-NH, -$CR^c=CR^a$-O-, -$CR^c=CR^a$-S-, -CR^c=N-NH-, and -$CR^a=CR^a$-CR^a=N-;

R^a for each occurence is independently hydrogen, or -(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^b for each occurence is independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -C(O)NR^cR^d, or -C(O)R^f;

R^c and R^d for each occurence are each independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{12})alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl;

provided that when R^4 is the moiety -SR^c, -S(O)R^c, or -$S(O)_2R^c$, R^c is other than hydrogen; or

R^c and R^d are taken together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached to form a 3-10 membered heterocylic ring which may optionally contain a second heterogroup selected from oxygen, -NR^e-, or sulfur; and wherein said heterocyclic ring is substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -OR^b, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or -NR^aR^g;

R^e for each occurence is hydrogen, -CN, -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, -(C_2-C_{10})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{10})alkoxy, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, -C(O)R^f, -C(O)OR^f, -C(O)NR^aR^f, or -$S(O)_2R^f$;

R^f for each occurence is independently -(C_1-C_{10})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, -(C_2-C_{12})alkenyl, -(C_2-C_{10})alkynyl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl;

R^g for each occurence is independently hydrogen, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, aryl, -C(O)R^f, -C(O)OR^f, -C(O)NR^aR^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, or -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl;

Group V is halogen, -CF_3, -OCF_3, -OH, oxo, -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, -CN, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -SR^f, -S(O)R^f, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, - NR^aR^g, or -C(O)NR^aR^f;

Group VI is halogen, hydroxy, oxo, -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, aryl, heteroaryl, -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, -CN, or -OCF_3;

provided that when R^4 is -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, wherein said Group V

substituent is oxo, said oxo group is substituted on a carbon atom other than the C_1 carbon atom in -(C_1-C_{12})alkyl;

aryl for each occurence is independently phenyl or naphthyl substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from halogen, -(C_1-C_6)alkyl, -CN, -SR^f, -$S(O)R^f$, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, -NR^aR^g, -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, -OR^b, -perfluoro-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, or -$COOR^f$;

provided that when said substituent(s) on aryl are -SR^f, -$S(O)R^f$, -$S(O)_2R^f$, -$S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, -NR^aR^g, -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, -OR^b, or -$COOR^f$, said substituents R^b, R^f, and R^g, are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

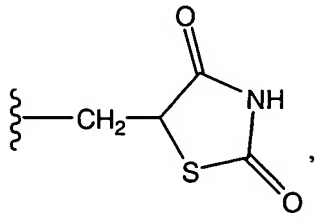
heteroaryl for each occurence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-membered monocyclic or bicyclic ring having from one to three heteroatoms selected from O, N, or S;

wherein in said bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heteroaryl ring is fused to a benzene ring or to another heteroaryl ring, and having zero to three substituents independently selected from halogen, -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -CF_3, -OR^b, -NR^aR^g, or -$COOR^f$;

provided that when said substituent(s) on heteroaryl are -NR^aR^g, -OR^b, or -$COOR^f$, said substituents R^b, R^f, and R^g, are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heterocycloalkyl for each occurence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, or 9-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cycloalkyl ring having from one to three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, -NR^e, or sulfur, and having zero to four substituents independently selected from -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, -OR^b, oxo, -CN, phenyl, or -NR^aR^g; and

X is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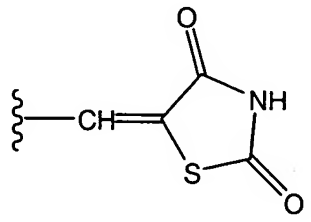
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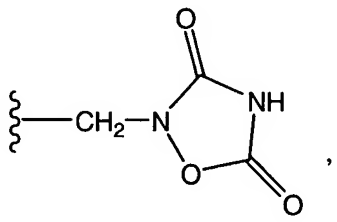
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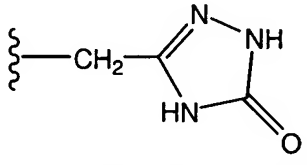
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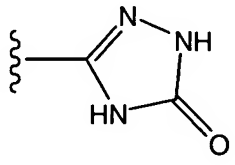
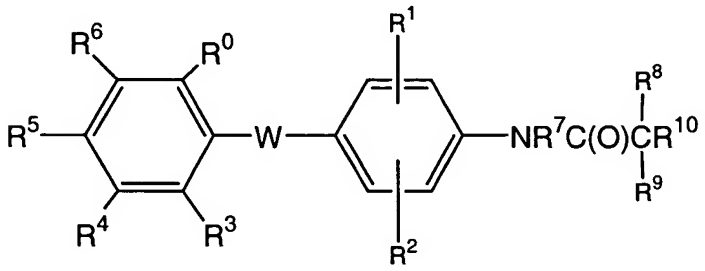


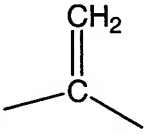
and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

28. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug;

wherein W is (a) -O-, (b) -S-, (c) -SO-, (d) $-SO_2-$, (e) $-CH_2-$, (f) $-CF_2-$, (g) -CHF-,



; (h) -C(O)-, (i) -CH(OH)-, (j) $-NR^a$ or (k)

R^0 is (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1-C_6)$alkyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (1) $-(C_3-C_6)$cycloalkyl, (2) heterocycloalkyl and (3) phenyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) $-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, (ii) halogen, (iii) $-CF_3$ and (iv) $-OCF_3$; (c) $-C(O)R^h$, (d) $-S(O)_2R^h$ or (e) halogen;

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^6 are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) halogen, (c) $-(C_1-C_8)$alkyl, (d) $-CF_3$, (e) $-OCF_3$, (f) $-O(C_1-C_8)$alkyl, or (g) -CN;

R^4 is (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1-C_{12})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) $-(C_2-C_{12})$alkenyl, (d) $-(C_2-C_{12})$alkynyl, (e) halogen, (f) -CN, (g) $-OR^b$, (h) $-SR^c$, (i) $-S(O)R^c$, (j) $-S(O)_2R^c$, (k) aryl, (l) heteroaryl, (m) $-(C_3-C_{10})$cycloalkyl, (n) heterocycloalkyl, (o) $-S(O)_2NR^cR^d$, (p) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$, (q) $-C(O)OR^c$, (r) $-NR^aC(O)R^d$, (s) $-NR^aC(O)NR^cR^d$, (t) $-NR^aS(O)_2R^d$, (u) $-NR^aR^d$ or (v) $-C(O)R^c$;

or R^3 and R^4 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a carbocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_i-$ or a heterocyclic ring of formula $-(CH_2)_k-Q-(CH_2)_l-$ wherein Q is -O-, -S- or $-NR^e-$; i is 3, 4, 5 or 6; k is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and l is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5; and wherein the carbocyclic ring and the heterocyclic ring are each substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) $-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, (b) $-OR^b$, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) $-NR^aR^g$;

R^5 is (a) -OH, (b) $-O(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, (c) $-OC(O)R^f$, (d) F, or (e) $-C(O)OR^c$;

or R^4 and R^5 are taken together along with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of $-CR^c=CR^a\text{-}NH\text{-}$, $-N=CR^a\text{-}NH$, $-CR^c=CR^a\text{-}O\text{-}$, $-CR^c=CR^a\text{-}S\text{-}$, $-CR^c=N\text{-}NH\text{-}$ and $-CR^a=CR^a\text{-}CR^a=N\text{-}$;

R^7 is (a) hydrogen or (b) $-(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, (c) aryl, or (d) halogen;

R^{10} is (a) $-(C_0\text{-}C_1)$alkyl-C(O)OH, (b) $-(C_0\text{-}C_1)$alkyl-$C(O)OR^f$, (c) $-(C_0\text{-}C_1)$alkyl-$C(O)NR^cR^d$, or (d) $-(C_0\text{-}C_1)$alkyl-OH;

R^a for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen or (b) $-(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl substituted with zero or one $-(C_3\text{-}C_6)$cycloalkyl or methoxy;

R^b for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V, (c) aryl, (d) heteroaryl, (e) $-(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, (f) heterocycloalkyl, (g) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$, or (h) $-C(O)R^f$;

R^c and R^d for each occurrence are each independently (a) hydrogen, (b) $-(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group VI, (c) $-(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkenyl, (d) $-(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkynyl, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl, (g) $-(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl or (h) heterocycloalkyl;

provided that when R^4 is the moiety $-SR^c$, $-S(O)R^c$ or $-S(O)_2R^c$, R^c is other than hydrogen;

or R^c and R^d are taken together along with the atom(s) to which they are attached to form a 3-10 membered heterocyclic ring which may optionally contain a second heterogroup selected from -O-, $-NR^e$- or –S-; and wherein the heterocyclic ring is substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) $-(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, (b) $-OR^b$, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) $-NR^aR^g$;

R^e for each occurrence is (a) hydrogen, (b) –CN, (c) $-(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substitutents independently selected from Group V, (d) $-(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkenyl, (e) $-(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkoxy, (f) $-(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, (g) aryl, (h) heteroaryl, (i) $-C(O)R^f$, (j) $-C(O)OR^f$, (k) $-C(O)NR^aR^f$ or (l) $-S(O)_2R^f$;

R^f for each occurrence is independently (a) $-(C_1\text{-}C_{10})$alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from the Group VI, (b) $-(C_2\text{-}C_{10})$alkenyl,

(c) -(C_2-C_{10})alkynyl, (d) -(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl or (g) heterocycloalkyl;

R^g for each occurrence is independently (a) hydrogen, (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) –(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (d) aryl, (e) -$C(O)R^f$, (f) -$C(O)OR^f$, (g) -$C(O)NR^aR^f$, (h) -$S(O)_2R^f$ or (i) -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl;

R^h is (a) -(C_1-C_6)alkyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (1) -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (2) heterocycloalkyl and (3) phenyl substituted with zero or one substituent selected from the group consisting of (i) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (ii) halogen, (iii) -CF_3 and (iv) –OCF_3; (b) phenyl substituted with zero to two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of (1) -(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (2) halogen, (3) -CF_3 and (4) –OCF_3; (c) -(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl or (d) heterocycloalkyl;

Group V is (a) halogen, (b) –CF_3, (c) –OCF_3, (d) -OH, (e) –oxo, (f) –(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (g) –CN, (h) aryl, (i) heteroaryl, (j) –(C_3-C_{10})cycloalkyl, (k) heterocycloalkyl, (l) $–SR^f$, (m) $–S(O)R^f$, (n) $–S(O)_2R^f$, (o) $–S(O)_2NR^aR^f$ (p) $–NR^aR^g$ or (q) $–C(O)NR^aR^f$;

Group VI is (a) halogen, (b) hydroxy, (c) oxo, (d) -(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (e) aryl, (f) heteroaryl, (g) -(C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl, (h) heterocycloalkyl, (i) -CN, or (j) -OCF_3;

provided that when the substituent R^4 is –(C_1-C_{12})alkyl substituted with zero to three substituents independently selected from Group V wherein the Group V substituent is oxo, the oxo group is substituted on a carbon atom other than the C_1 carbon atom in –(C_1-C_{12})alkyl;

aryl for each occurrence is independently phenyl or naphthyl substituted with zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) halogen, (b) –(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (c) -CN, (d) $–SR^f$, (e) $-S(O)R^f$, (f) $-S(O)_2R^f$, (g) –(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (h) $-S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, (i) $-NR^aR^g$, (j) $-C(O)NR^aR^f$, (k) $-OR^b$, (l) -perfluoro-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, or (m) $–COOR^f$;

provided that when the substituent(s) on aryl are $–SR^f$, $-S(O)R^f$, $-S(O)_2R^f$, $-S(O)_2NR^aR^f$, $-NR^aR^g$, $-C(O)NR^aR^f$, $-OR^b$, or $–COOR^f$, the substituents R^b, R^f and R^g are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heteroaryl for each occurrence is independently a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9- or 10-membered monocyclic or bicyclic ring having from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N or S; wherein in the bicyclic ring, a monocyclic heteroaryl ring is fused to a benzene ring or to another heteroaryl ring; and having zero to three substituents independently selected from (a) halogen, (b) –(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (c) -CF_3, (d) $-OR^b$, (e) $-NR^aR^g$, or (f) -CO_2R^f;

provided that when the substituent(s) on heteroaryl are $-OR^b$, $-NR^aR^g$ or

$-CO_2R^f$, the substituents R^b, R^f and R^g are other than aryl or heteroaryl;

heterocycloalkyl for each occurrence is independently a 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9- or 10-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cycloalkyl ring having from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, NR^e or S; and having zero to four substituents independently selected from (a) $-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, (b) $-OR^b$, (c) oxo, (d) -CN, (e) phenyl or (f) $-NR^aR^g$;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. A composition of claim 28 wherein the compound is selected from the group of:

N-{4-[3-(cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-((1S)-cyclohexyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclopropylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3,5-dichloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentylacetyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-(4-{3-[(4-fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy}-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl)-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(2-cyclopentyl-1-hydroxy-ethyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-[4-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-[3-chloro-4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-[4-(3-cyclopentanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]- phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]- phenyl}-malonamic acid ethyl ester;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester;

N-{3-chloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-5-methyl-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

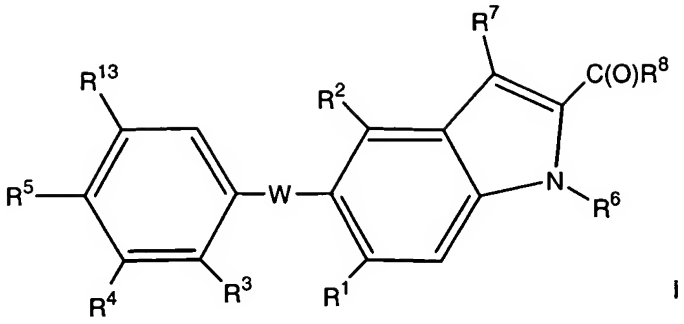
N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid methyl ester; and

N-{3,5-dichloro-4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-phenyl}-2-methyl-malonamic acid;

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid; and

N-{4-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl}-malonamic acid methyl ester; or an isomer thereof, a prodrug of said compound or isomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound, isomer or prodrug.

30. A topical pharmaceutical composition for increasing the rate of nail growth which comprises an effective amount of a compound of the formula



I

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

W is oxygen, CH_2, CF_2, NR^{12}, $S(O)_m$ wherein m is 0, 1 or 2;

R^1, R^2, and R^3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluomethoxy and $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, halo, cyano, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkynyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-OR^9$, $-S(O)_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(O)R^{10}$, $-CH(OH)R^{10}$, $-NR^{12}C(O)R^{10}$, $-NR^{12}C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-NR^{12}S(O)_2R^{10}$ or $-S(O)_nR^{10}$ wherein n is 0, 1 or 2;

R^5 is hydroxy, fluoro, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkoxy or $-OC(O)R^{10}$;

R^6 is hydrogen, $-C(O)CH_3$ or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^7 is hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^8 is OR^{12} or NR^9R^{12};

R^9 for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heterocycloalkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl or $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl;

R^{10} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_{12})$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_{12})$alkynyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$cycloalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_9)$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl, $(C_2\text{-}C_9)$heteroaryl or halo$(C_6\text{-}C_{10})$aryl;

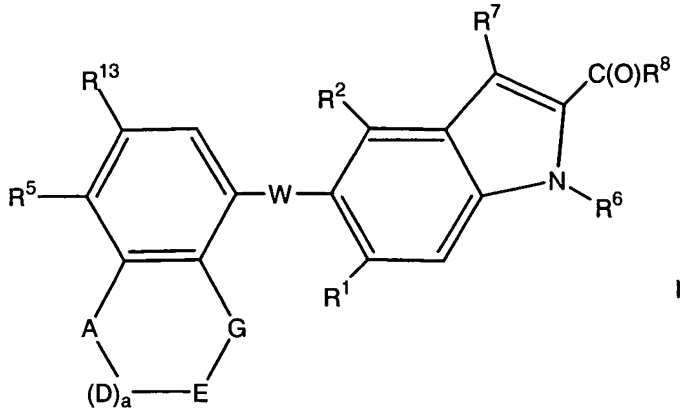
R^{11} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_{10})$ cycloalkyl or $(C_3\text{-}C_9)$cycloalkyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

or R^{10} and R^{11} may be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a 3 to 10 membered heterocyclic group which may contain a second heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR^{14} wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^{12} for each occurrence is independently hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

R^{13} is hydrogen, halo or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl;

or R^3 and R^4 may be taken together with the carbons to which they are attached to form a compound of the formula



II

wherein a is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

A, D, E and G are each independently selected from the group consisting of $CR^{16}R^{17}$, NR^{18}, oxygen or sulfur;

R^{16} and R^{17} for each occurrence are each independently selected from hydrogen or $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl; and

R^{18} is hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-C(O)R^{10}$ or $-S(O)_2R^{10}$ wherein R^{10} is defined as above;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. A composition according to claim 30 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-sec-butyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-{3-[(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy}-4,6-dimethyl-1H-ondole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(2-Cyclopentyl-1-hydroxy-ethyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(Cyclobutyl-methyl-carbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxyl]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclobutylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-3-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4-Chloro-50(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-5-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[4-hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-1,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5{3-[(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[3-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclopentylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(3-cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclohexylmethanesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclopropylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-3,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-1,4,6-trimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-[3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-3-methyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(3-Cyclobutylsulfamoyl-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-[4-Hydroxy-3-(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-{3-[(4-fluoro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-4-hydroxy-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(4-Hydroxy-2,3-dimethyl-phenoxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-2,3-dimethyl-phenoxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

5-(7-Hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(7-hydroxy-indan-4-yloxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid;

4,6-Dichloro-5-(4-hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid; and

5-(4-Hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-yloxy)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxylic acid.

32. A composition of claim 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28 or 30 wherein the topical composition is in the form of a lotion, cream, ointment, paste, lacquer, artificial nail, gel, spray, aerosol, bandage or kit; and the effective amount of the compound is about 0.0001% to about 10% (w/v) of the compound per day.

33. A composition of claim 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28 or 30 which further comprises an effective amount of nail growth promoter, an antibacterial agent or an antifungal agent.

34. A composition of claim 33 wherein the antifungal agent is fluconazole, itraconazole, terbinafine or ciclopirox.

35. A kit for increasing nail growth in a mammal, the kit comprising:

a) a first pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 11 or 13;

b) a second pharmaceutical composition comprising a second compound useful for promoting the rate of nail growth, an antibacterial agent or an antifungal agent; and

c) a container.

36. A kit of claim 35 wherein the additional compound is an antifungal agent is fluconazole, itraconazole, terbinafine or ciclopirox.